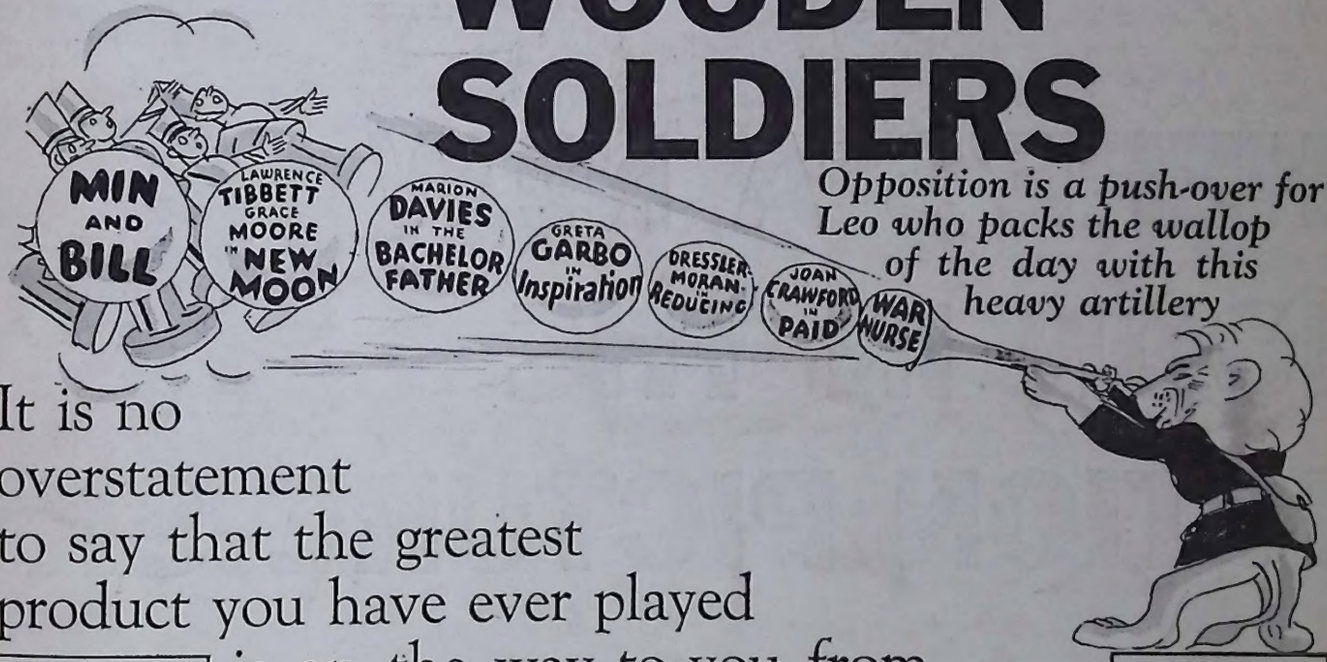
CANADIAN
MOVING PICTURE DIGEST

Vol. 22, No. 33 TORONTO 2, CANADA December 13th, 1930

Knocking over

WOODEN SOLDIERS



Opposition is a push-over for Leo who packs the wallop of the day with this heavy artillery

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COMEDY GETS THE KIDS

With the holiday season exhibitors might give added consideration to the great comedy list of M-G-M with special emphasis on what are acknowledged to be the best short subjects in the market.

GRAND HOTEL

It will doubtless be of interest to exhibitors that M-G-M owns the motion picture rights to "Grand Hotel" the outstanding dramatic hit of the day on Broadway.

PUBLISHED BY
CANADIAN MOVING PICTURE DIGEST COMPANY LIMITED
259 SPADINA AVENUE, TORONTO 2

THERE'S A NEW MOON IN THE MOTION PICTURE SKY!

We have just previewed a picture that is going to be the talk of every film row next month. It is "New Moon," based on the stage play that ran more than a year on Broadway. So thrilling, so entertaining that you cannot take your attention from the screen for a second. Lawrence Tibbett and Grace Moore are the stars. Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer is the proud producer. Watch the skies for "New Moon"!

Canadian Moving Picture DIGEST

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RAY LEWIS
Editor and Managing Director

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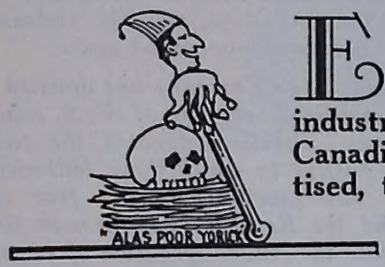
Canadian-Owned Screens



EVERY INDUSTRY is important to the development of Canada from a national, as well as economic standpoint. When an Industry is, in addition to its industrial angle, a medium of propaganda, through which Canadian nationalism, and Canadian products can be advertised, then this Industry becomes a public utility; and so much an integral part of a nation, that the conduct of its business concerns, and is, the business of a nation.

Canada and the Empire are one in spirit, in traditional inheritance, and in their desire that the British Empire shall continue British.

This can only be brought about by a closer Empire relationship, through trade and commerce, and through the perpetuation of British ideals.

The Industry of Motion Pictures represents several billions of dollars invested by the public, for its entertainment, and its service.

The British investment is a minority investment, as far as actual dollars are concerned, in comparison with what the U. S. has invested in the Industry of Motion Pictures, but the financial investment of British interests is growing steadily; and even at a greater impetus, the British interest in Motion Picture is mounting, and embracing the co-operation of all the government departments of England, and the Dominions which make up our Empire.

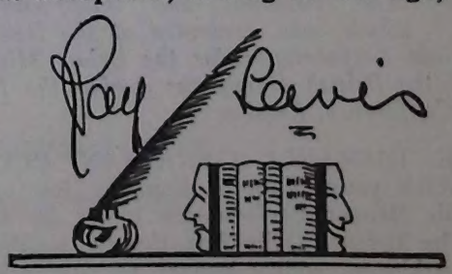
This is following the precedent established by the U. S. which not only has its department at Washington, functioning with the Department of Trade and Commerce, but has so co-ordinated its Motion Picture service system, that no country in which there is a Screen for the presentation of Motion Pictures, is left without some official working in the interests of the U. S. Film Industry.

Therefore, there are ambassadors, trade consuls and various other government officials who jealously guard the trade interests of the U. S. Film.

Such a guardianship for British films is not only good business, but a necessity.

Every generation uses the "means at hand" to present its civilization, and continue its business of living. In the early days of nation-building the screen, like the automobile and aeroplane, was not yet a part of the general commerce of a nation, but today the Screen, the automobile, the aeroplane, belong to this age, new servants of public utility; and here for us to use. Not least, but greater than both the inventions of this age by way of locomotion, is the Screen.

Let ours in Canada, be Canadian - controlled, for Empire service.



Loew's Midnight Show Benefit of Unemployed, Thursday, Jan. 8th.
Bernard Shaw's "How He Lied To Her Husband."

RAY PRESENTS

RAY LEWIS

IT DID not take Mr. Nicholas Schenck, of Loew's more than an actual minute to say "yes" to a benefit performance at Loew's, Toronto, for the Unemployed.

Mr. Schenck is a humanist, he knows that 85% of the people, who constitute the masses, make up Motion Picture patronage; and that it is the duty of institutions, who pride themselves on being centres of community service, to function constructively in times of distress.

The unemployed situation is acute; and every medium must be employed to co-operate with the government, be it civil, provincial, or federal, in efforts which are being made to take care of these workers, who are in distress, owing to no fault of their own, but as the result of economic conditions.

A THEATRE builds up its business through good-will; and its good-will is its greatest asset, for regardless of any qualifications which a theatre may have, if it "goes back" on its public, it loses its patronage; and all the "king's horses and all the king's men" cannot reinstate this theatre's good-will again.

Mr. Jules Bernstein, of Loew's, Toronto, has always jealously watched the good-will of Loew's Theatre, and The Digest must avail itself of its editorial privileges, to congratulate Mr. Schenck on his managerial representation at Loew's, for the public in Toronto know that "Bernie" is always ready to make Loew's fit into the public-spirit of our city.

The benefit at Loew's for the Unemployed is under the patronage of The Honourable G. Howard Ferguson, formerly Premier for Ontario, and recently appointed High Commissioner for Canada.

The Midnight Show will take place at Loew's on the evening of January 8th, 1931, and will through the courtesy of Mr. John Maxwell, President of British International Pictures; Mr Arthur Dent, Managing Director, and Henry Nathanson, of Regal Films, present the world's premiere of Bernard Shaw's, "How He Lied To Her Husband," and "The Middle Watch," which was presented at the British Film Gala Performance for the Prime Ministers of the British Dominions during the Imperial Conference, London.

THE DISRAELI CANADIAN CLUB, of which your editor is Founder, has arranged this Benefit Performance under its auspices. The Toronto Daily Star, through its President, Mr. J. E. Atkinson, widely known as "Joe Atkinson," gave your editor $1,000 to help the Unemployment Benefit Theatre Fund, The Toronto Telegram, The Mail & Empire, The Toronto Globe, and The Hebrew Journal have donated a generous amount of space.

The Ruddy Sign Company has donated fifty billboards, and Fred Johnston of W. S. Johnston and Company., Printers, donated the twenty-four sheet posters to cover these billboards.

Loew's has given its theatre free of all charges, and the Regal Films, through British International, the entire program free of all charges. We must not forget the generous donation of Mr. Ben Cronk, who supplied the nine-foot banners for the committee room.

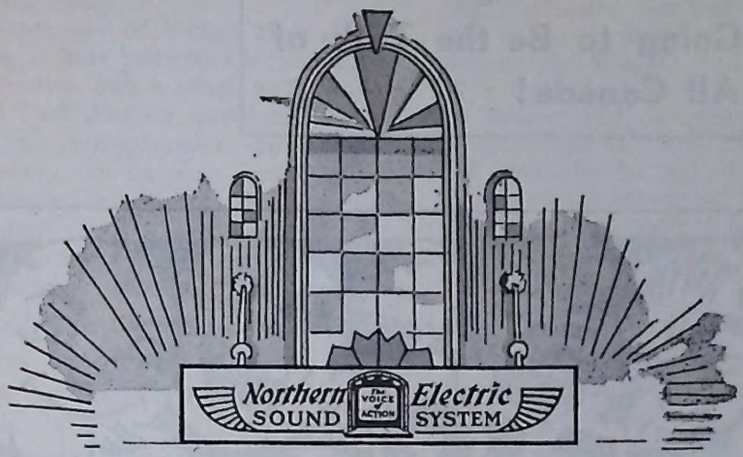
THE spontaneous and generous co-operation which has been extended to your editor in her efforts to co-operate with the city in its splendid work for Unemployment relief, evokes such a feeling of gratitude, that the mere presentation of these facts, coupled with the sincere thanks of the Theatre Benefit Committee proves inadequate, but we sincerely hope that this "bread cast upon the waters" will return to these bread-givers a thousandfold.

And before we close this subject we must mention that the Exhibitors Co-Operative are also having a benefit performance for the Unemployed at forty-five theatres in Toronto, which belong to the Co-Operative group, on the evening of December 23rd, and are giving their proceeds to a Trust Fund for disbursement.

The Theatre Committee consists of Harry Alexander, Nat. Taylor, George Lester, R. S. Tickner, A. Polakoff and your editor.

SO FAR the Famous Players Canadian Corp. has not functioned in Toronto on a theatre benefit performance for the Unemployed. A committee called at the Royal Bank Building asking that a Midnight Show be given at one of the Famous theatres. "Big Hearted Jim" first promised fifty percent of the intake for The Imperial on the evening of December 23rd, but when the committee followed this up, "Big Hearted Jim" stated that the Directors of Famous would not agree; and the best this dominant theatre chain could do, would be to offer The Imperial for a midnight Show, providing all expenses of operating that show were paid by the Unemployment Committee.

Mrs. Joshua Smith (Ray Lewis) Candidate for Board of Education, Ward 5



ANNOUNCEMENT

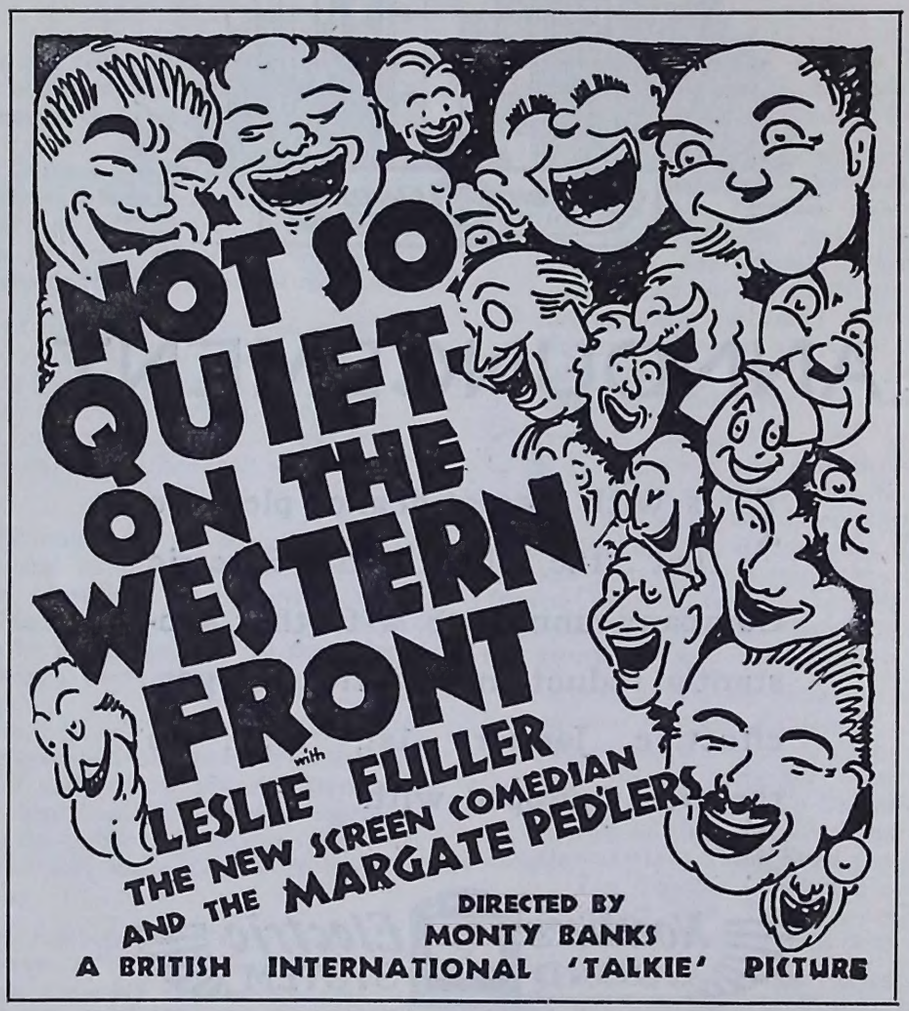
IT is with a great deal of pleasure that the Northern Electric Company announce a further substantial reduction in service charges, effective January 1st, 1931, to theatres equipped with

Northern SOUND The VOICE of ACTION Electric SYSTEM
Western Electric in U.S.A.

This reduction is in line with the Company's policy of passing along to theatres any economies made in operation.

RESEARCH PRODUCTS SALES DEPARTMENT
NORTHERN ELECTRIC COMPANY LIMITED
637 CRAIG STREET WEST, MONTREAL, QUE.

A Screamingly Funny Musical Burlesque, with New Music, New Songs and New Dances. It's Going to Be the Talk of All Canada!



A Real Story With a Real Plot--That Will Keep Them Laughing From Fade-In to Fade-Out. What a Talkie! What a Laughie! What a Screamie!

Distributed in Canada by Regal Films Limited

The New Film on Broadway

By BETTY ROSS

"SIN TAKES A HOLIDAY," a Pathe picture, directed by Paul Stein.

Constance Bennett, one of Pathe's most dazzling luminaries, is here presented in the story of an ugly duckling who turns into a swan, to the tune of interesting events in a Park Avenue apartment, Paris, and Monte Carlo. As the unappreciated but pretty stenographer who has always, one suspects, had a secret hankering for her light-hearted employer. Miss Bennett gives a sympathetic, and often very poignant performance. It is quite easy to believe that all she needed was to wear a few devastating Parisian gowns to capture hearts.

The tale concerns itself with the amatory difficulties of Gaylord Stanton, who, though interested in Grace Lanier, a married woman, is anxious to avoid the restrictions of marital ties. During the chatter of his friends, Stanton takes a mental note of a remark made by one of them to the effect that the man without a care is the one who is married to a woman who cares not where he goes. With the words of his friend ringing in his ears, Stanton seizes upon the notion of marrying his secretary, sending her to Europe and thus being free to philander to his heart's content.

Once through with the ceremony, Stanton provides his wife with a passage to Europe. On board ship, Sylvia meets Durant, one of his rather loose friends, who is immediately smitten. Durant takes her to the smart places in Paris, the gambling rooms of Monte Carlo, and several weeks at St. Moritz. And then he asks her to marry him.

Sylvia, before giving her answer, returns to see her husband. Stanton is overjoyed at having a wife present in order to discourage the importunities of Mrs. Lanier. But in the meantime he is struck by a newly discovered charm and manner in his wife that is quite fetching. The enamoured Durant is disappointed when he learns that Sylvia does not recoil from her husband's embraces, but on the contrary has been loving him all along.

This sophisticated film is entertaining, and well acted. The lovely Miss Bennett has never appeared to better advantage. Kenneth MacKenna is a convincing philanderer who falls in love with his own wife. Basil Rathbone is his sophisticated and highly charming self. This excellent triumvirate contribute performances well worth seeing.

* * * *

"BIG MONEY," a Pathe picture, directed by Russell Mack.

Here at last is a new kind of Gangland picture — a light, diverting comedy slant built around a plot that is full of action. The cast is composed of such top-notchers as Eddie Quillan, Robert Armstrong ,and James Gleason. And there are ample opportunities to see them at their best.

The saga tells of a messenger boy in a brokerage house, where his uncanny luck at shooting dice occasion dire forebodings of his friends as to a bad end. One day, due to the fact that he could not resist the temptation to take a final toss of the ivories, he is too late to deposit the $50,000, and too late at the office to lock it in the safe. He jokingly invites the boss's daughter to dinner, and she accepts. The price of the dinner is more than he owns, and so he peels off a fifty dollar bill from the fat roll in his brief-case. He is seen by two crooks, who waylay him. While evading them, Eddie falls into a room in the Ritz Hotel through a service elevator. But it proves to be another trap for the susceptible little gambler. For he has intruded on a crap game participated in by a group of notorious gamblers. Eddie's luck does not desert him, and he cleans up a small fortune. He is taken up by one of the gamblers, known as Ace Carter, and the two decide to stick together as a team.

During the following weeks, Eddie becomes the sensation of New York. But Joan, the boss's daughter, shows him the error of his ways, and he decides to reform. However, it is just too late, and Eddie is mixed up in a murder. Joan bails him out, and the suspicion is fastened on the guilty party. Eddie marries Joan and Ace weds a beautiful and rich young widow.

The crisp, snappy dialogue and swift, sizzling events keep everything on tip-toe. Eddie Quillan is happily cast as the lucky, generous little gambler. Robert Armstrong contributes an excellent performance. James Gleason's amusing characterization hits the mark every time.

* * * *

"LIGHTNIN,'" a Fox Film, directed by Henry King.

Will Rogers, the immortal cowboy, has here a vehicle that departs from his usual style. But it is nonetheless in line with the excellent work for which he has become famous. Although on the legitimate stage he has long been incomparable, it is only within the last year and a half that he has come to be such a popular drawing card in the films.

The versatile Mr. Rogers, departing from well-known characterizations, appears in the role of "Lightnin'" Bill Jones. It is a performance that shows a great deal of study. Moreover, it is a happy idea to give such generous opportunities for Mr. Rogers to demonstrate his fine talents.

There are delightful moments in the sequences of Mrs. Jone's attempt to get a divorce. As each scene in the courtroom unfolds, Lightnin's triumph over her crooked attorney becomes more and more excruciatingly funny. There are, too, times when one feels that Mr. Rogers had really lived through several of the sequences in the film. Every one of his gestures creates an added insight into the lovable character of Lightnin'. Although he is no sugared Pollyanna, Mr. Rogers is so good in the part that, comic or not, one becomes quite hopeful for Lightnin's peace in this world.

J. M. Kerrigan is capital as the Judge. Louise Dresser does well as Mrs. Jones. Luke Cosgrave makes the most of the part of the ancient Zeb. Joel McCrea is believable as John Marvin.

Exhibitors Co-operative Benefit Show Unemployed on Tuesday, Dec. 23rd.
Forty-Five Theatres Co-operating

Maurice Arthur Dent in New York

Maurice Arthur Dent, managing director of British International Pictures, who arrived in New York on December 10th, is making a survey of the wide film situation from the angle of theatre equipment as well as production. The wide screen equipment in use in Europe at the present time is the magnascope, which has not proved satisfactory.

Mr. Dent states that production and distribution in the British film industry is progressing rapidly, and the British film industry is healthier today than it has ever been.

Mr. Dent has with him the prints of three new British International Pictures, George Bernard Shaw's "How He Lied To Her Husband," "The Middle Watch," and "The Man from Chicago."

Columbia is to distribute six B. I. P. pictures this season, while R. K. O. will distribute one; and six of these pictures are being placed on the independent market.

Indians See "Silent Enemy"

When Manager James A. Palangio of the Empire Theatre, Cochrane, Ontario, played "The Silent Enemy," there was quite a turn-out of Indians to see the show, as the picture was made in the north, and the star of it was "Cheka," a little Indian boy. "Cheka" lives about 50 miles east of Cochrane, and Manager Palangio sent word to him that the picture in which he played a part was at the Empire Theatre. The Indians left their grounds and walked twenty miles to the nearest station from which they came on to Cochrane. Excitement was at a high pitch when the Indians saw themselves on the screen. They left their seats and made for the front, crowding up to the screen to get a better view. The picture went over great, creating plenty of talk around town, and making a big night for "Cheka" who had to shake hands with all the patrons.

The Belsize Theatre, Toronto, is replacing its present sound equipment with a complete installation of Northern Electric sound system, which will be ready for use by Christmas.

Benefit, Capitol Peterboro

There will be a benefit performance for the unemployed, the Capitol Theatre, Peterboro, under the direction of the manager of the theatre, Jack Stewart. The entire proceeds of the midnight show, which takes place December 11th, will be turned over to the Peterboro Examiner, for distribution.

This is excellent work, and we hope that the other theatres will follow Mr. Stewart's most excellent example.

Nat Taylor and L. Herman

Nat Taylor, of the Exhibitors Co-operative Limited, has become associated in partnership with L. Herman, and will carry on a general practice of law under the name of "Herman and Taylor." Their offices are located in the Hermant Building, 21 Dundas Square, Toronto.

(Special to The Digest from Winnipeg)

Fire of unknown origin, discovered about four o'clock the morning of December 10, caused damage amounting to $23,000 in Tompkins, Sask., reducing to ashes four buildings and contents, including the Rex Theatre, owned by Coney and Tyler, damage to the theatre being $8,000.

THEATRE FOR RENT OR SALE

In good live town of 2,000. Not much capital needed. Act quick. Apply

BOX 5 — DIGEST

FOR SALE

Pacent Disc Equipment including Amplifiers and Speakers and Simplex Projectors now in operation in the National Theatre, Toronto. Pacent Track Equipment may be added at any time at small cost. Ideal Sound Equipment for any average sized Theatre, in perfect running condition. See and hear it in operation yourself. Write NATIONAL THEATRE, 373 YONGE STREET, TORONTO, or Phone Gerrard 1305.

Where Is Your Weak Point?

Unsteady Projection and Noisy Operation?
Avail yourself of our Repair Service. Genuine Parts. Precision Workmanship. Or replace those old faithful, badly worn machines with New Projectors. We can supply you with Simplex Regular or Super, or Motiograph De Luxe.

Insufficient Illumination on the Screen?
Instal a Vocalite Glass Bead Sound Screen, perfect for both Sound and Projection;
and/or a pair of Strong Junior or Senior Reflector Arc Lamps, a truly excellent lamp;
and/or a Cont-El-Arc Motor Generator Set, obtaining the benefits of Direct Current;
and/or a pair of Ross or Superlite Projection Lenses, giving greater illumination.

Poor Focus?
Instal a pair of Ross or Superlite Lenses, of course. You will be amazed!

Track Mask Cutting Off Picture, etc.?
Instal a pair of Proportional Apertures, getting back to Normal Screen Size.

Excessive Heat on Film, Lenses and Parts?
Instal a pair of Rear Shutters that give you as much or more light than before and cut off 60% of the present heat using a front shutter.

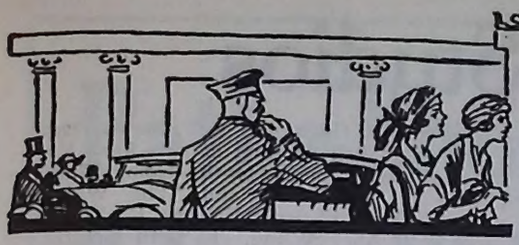
Several Other Things That You Cannot Put Your Finger On?
Use a Fulco Rewind Table with Argo Fireproof Film Cabinets, a Universal or a Griswold Film Splicer, Celco Flim Cement and Film Lacquer, Bio or National Carbons, or any of the hundreds of excellent articles we carry for the perfect presentation of your progamme or running your Business.

SEARCH OUT THE WEAK SPOT, THEN DROP US A LINE ABOUT IT!

"Courtesy With Service"

THE COLEMAN ELECTRIC Co. - 258 Victoria St. - Toronto, Ont.

Exhibitors! Give Benefit Show for Unemployed at Your Theatres



Show Business

(Special to Digest from Ottawa)

Eugene Curtis, formerly of New Haven, Conn., has been appointed manager of the big Capitol Theatre, Montreal, replacing H. S. Dahn who, after eight years, has gone to the Toronto headquarters of Famous Players Canadian Corp. This makes the second manager from New England to gain a Famous Players' appointment in Montreal, the former appointee being L. I. Bearg of Boston, Mass.

The answer of unemployed musicians to the sound theatres in Canadian cities seems to have been found in the organization of large symphony or concert orchestras by the men themselves to provide work and to offer the theatres a little competition. The Montreal Symphony Orchestra, thus formed, has already played a series of six weekly concerts. In Toronto a big orchestra has been established and the public has been invited to join on a $10 subscription plan. Orchestras are also in formation at Ottawa, Hamilton and other centres.

Free midnight pre-view performances of the attractions for the coming week for patrons attending the regular show two nights before the scheduled change in programs were offered by Manager George Rotsky at the Palace Theatre and by Manager Joe Lightstone at the Princess as added bait for customers. The evening's double-header at the Palace was "Laughter" and "Morocco." The latter being the next week's feature. At the Princess, the customers enjoyed "Raffles" and "Up the River" for the one admission. The extra performances were charged up to advertising.

The ratepayers of the town of Carleton Place showed their disapproval of Daylight Saving in voting down a referendum on the proposal to adopt summer time in 1931. The proposed by-law was defeated almost 2 to 1.

Because of the unusual business, the Dominion Theatre, Vancouver, B.C., held over "Africa Speaks" for a third week.

The daughter of Manager Don Stapleton of the Centre Theatre, Ottawa, had a narrow escape when she was struck by a big passenger bus on a local street. The driver swerved and jammed on the brakes to avoid hitting her but the rear end of the large vehicle swung around in a skid and knocked her down but caused only a slight facial injury.

J. Delaney has opened the new Delaney Theatre in Gananoque, Ont., which replaces the old house of the same name which had been operated for years. Th new theatre is wired.

The annual toy shower of the Capitol Theatre, Calgary, Alberta, held each year on the first Saturday in December, was a greater success than ever before, more than 1,800 children being in attendance, each bringing at least one toy for Boy Scout and Girl Guide distribution among the poor on Christmas Day. Manager W. O. Kelly of the Famous Lasky Film Service branch donated "The Silent Enemy" and "The Stein Song" for the film program while Ted Forcey played the pipe organ through the courtesy of the Calgary Musicians Association. John Hazza, general manager, provided the theatre and arrangements were directed by Harold Bishop, house manager. All employees contributed their services.

"Balaclava," the British film, was given official and public recognition by H. M. Field, His Majesty's Trade Commissioner at Montreal, prior to the playing of the feature as a road show at His Majesty's Theatre, Montreal, for one week. The engagement was under the auspices of the Canadian Legion of the British Empire Service League and a portion of the receipts were turned over to Christmas charities for the relief of unemployed war veterans.

Th Attorney-General's Department of Alberta prohibited the presentation of "Artists' Models" by W. M. Davidson in an Edmonton Theatre on threat of further prosecutions following the conviction of Davidson at Calgary, Alberta, on the charge of corrupting morals, for which he was fined $500 and costs. The show consisted of sex films and an anatomical display of women on the stage.

The annual convention of the Canadian Association of Exhibitions and Fairs at Toronto on Thursday decided to send a deputation to Ottawa to ask for an amendment to the Canadian Copyright Act to prevent the Performing Rights Society from collecting an annual music fee from fairs and theatres on copyrighted music.

(Special to Digest from Winnipeg)

Uniform regulations to control operation of movie projection machines and for safety appliances in projection booths were approved at a conference in Regina, Sask., and at which a schedule was prepared.

The conference was called at suggestion of the British Columbia Government, and Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba and Ontario were also represented.

The proposed regulations are to be submitted to the censor boards of the respective provinces, which will in turn make recommendations to their governments.

"Hell's Angels" Viewed by Royalty

His Royal Highness, Albert Edward, Prince of Wales, recently strolled over to Cochran's Pavilion in London and saw "Hell's Angels," the Howard Hughes air spectacle that must have had particular meaning to a future King of England who flies himself and invariably travels through the air. Of particular interest to the Prince must have been the air raid on London.

The eldest son of the King was not the first member of his family to see "Hell's Angels," since The Duke of York and Prince George, his brothers, had previously viewed it. On the same day that the Prince of Wales sat in the Dress Circle Prince Arthur of Connaught was present. The Queen of Spain has also visited the theatre to see the film.

Round About the Studios

Marie Prevost, whose last Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer role was in Edgar Selwyn's "War Nurse," and George Cooper, comedian and character actor, have been added to the cast of "Gentleman's Fate," in which Mervyn Leroy is directing John Gilbert.

The Pathe Grantland Rice Sportlight, "Par and Double Par," produced by the Van Beuren Corporation and featuring Bobby Jones in sensational golf plays, has been booked for every theatre of the Circuit of Theatres commencing December 10th.

This Sportlight is meeting with an exceptional demand throughout the country, due to the tremendous amount of publicity recently given Bobby Jones on the announcement of his forsaking amateur golf to take part in the production of a series of golf instruction reels.

Bill Boyd and Helen Twelvetrees in a romantic scene in Pathe's "The Painted Desert."

Vera Lewis will play the part of Queen Elizabeth in "The Command Performance," the forthcoming James Cruze Tiffany production.

Una Merkel, Neil Hamilton, Albert Gran, Helen Ware, Lawrence Grant and many others are featured in this Cruze production, which was adapted to the screen from the famous stage play of C. Stafford Dickens, by Gordon Rigby.

Will Kellino has resumed production on the Gainsborough "musical extravaganzas" series of talkies, and is currently engaged at the Islington Studios on "My Old China," a film setting forth the adventures of a young English couple who fall into the hands of a ruthless Chinese bandit answering to the pleasant name of "Ping Pong."

Al Smith and Bob Fleming, noted western "heavies," have been signed for the cast of Columbia Pictures' "Desert Vengeance," fifth in a series of eight "Buck" Jones outdoor specials. Louis King is directing this red-blooded action drama, with an imposing cast that includes in addition to Jones, Barbara Bedford and Douglas Gilmore.

Dorothy Jordan, petite Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer star, dons an old-fashioned bonnet. Isn't she adorable?

The Boy Friends are right up to date on their production schedule, and are now putting the finishing touches on their sixth comedy, as yet untitled. Mary Kornman, Gertrude Messinger, Grady Sutton, David Sharpe and Mickey Daniels appear again in this new release. Edgar Kennedy was called upon to furnish the cop in this comedy. George Stevens directing.

Janet Gaynor will enact the title role in "Merely Mary Ann," adapted from the notable Israel Zangwill stage play.

Miss Gaynor recently completed the leading role opposite Charles Farrell in "The Man Who Came Back," Fox Films production directed by Raoul Walsh. She left recently for a short vacation in Honolulu, accompanied by her mother, and will return before the holidays to begin work on her new picture.

This is Kent Douglas, new Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer player, who plays the masculine lead opposite Joan Crawford in "Within The Law."

Frank McHugh, the well known stage comedian, will be seen in two First National pictures next month, "Going Wild," with Joe E. Brown, and "The Widow from Chicago," with Edward G. Robinson and Alice White. In both pictures, McHugh has an opportunity to portray the typical "souse" role which won him fame on the stage.

Mack Sennett is well represented on Broadway these days, with "Racket Cheers," featuring Andy Clyde, Daphne Pollard and Marjorie Beebe, now finishing its third week at the Central Theatre, and "A Hollywood Theme Song," with Harry Gribbon, Yola D'Avril and Patsy O'Leary, starting its second week at the RKO Mayfair on Thursday.

"The Gorilla" on the Vitaphone screen is even funnier than was the play of the same name which had so much success on the stage. All of the Los Angeles critics are as one in declaring that as the picture has been produced by First National it is one series of the loudest laughs ever heard within a theatre.

James Donlan and Natalie Moorehead have been added to the cast of Joan Crawford's new starring film, "Dance Fools, Dance," which Harry Beaumont is directing. Clark Gable, of the cast of "The Last Mile," will also have a part in this photoplay, now under way at the Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer studio.

Una Merkel, new stellar attraction, has been signed for an outstanding role in "All Women Are Bad," Fox Movietone picture. She will be featured with Warner Baxter and Jeanette MacDonald under the direction of William K. Howard.

Miss Merkel enacted the feminine lead in "Abraham Lincoln."

John Gilbert has begun work in his new starring film, "Gentleman's Fate," which is an original story by Ursula Parrott.

This is Gilbert's first picture following "Way For A Sailor," and Mervyn Leroy is directing, with a supporting cast that includes Louis Wolheim, Leila Hyams, and Anita Page.

"Seeing Hollywood," a German language picture now being made on the coast by Frank Reicher for M-G-M, is being touted as a novelty which would "go" in any language.

In fact a preliminary showing of episodes of this picture before German audiences confirmed the M-G-M officials in a decision to make French and Spanish versions of the same motif.

"Borrowed Wives," a substantial offering in Gaumont's 1930-31 programme, is to be trade shown on Tuesday, December 2nd, at 1.15 a.m. and 3 p.m. in the private theatre at Film House, Wardour Street.

Featuring Rex Lease, Paul Hurst, Vera Reynolds and Nita Martan, "Borrowed Wives" is principally a farce, but has a melodramatic "mystery" background, lightened with a liberal dash of romance.

Ferdinand Schumann Heink, son of the noted diva, enacts a role in "The Seas Beneath," Fox picture, similar in many respects to the real life part his brother played during the World War. Ferdinand portrays a German U-boat officer in the John Ford film — but does not, as his brother did, go down with his ship.

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